(c) whether States were told to ensure minimum supply of 6 to 8 hours of electricity daily in the RGGVY network;

(d) whether the States' assurance was fulfilled by supplying electricity at subsidized tariff;

(e) which States did not fulfil the assurance;

(f) the number of un-electrifled villages electrified with the implementation of Phase-I of the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(g) to what extent electricity connections would be provided to BPL households?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) was launched in April, 2005.

(b) The subsidy provision for Phase-I of the scheme in Eleventh Five Year Plan is Rs.28,000 crore.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) As per the Electricity Act, 2003, the State Government has to ensure adequate supply of power to all the villages. This point was also highlighted in the recently held conference of power minister's of the States.

(f) The 1st phase of Eleventh Plan is under implementation. Cumulatively the works have been completed in 62520 unelectrified villages as on 30th June, 2009.

(g) 2.45 Cr. BPL households are covered in the sanctioned projects under RGGVY. So far, 62.52 lakh BPL connections have been released.

Import of Boilers for Power Projects

987. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a joint team from Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and NTPC had examined the higher heat rate quoted in some projects like Sasan, UMPP, LANCO, Amarkantak, GSW Energy, Ratnagiri, etc., by some foreign bidders for super critical boilers;

(b) whether BHEL, a Navaratna PSU, is in a position to supply such boilers with a lower heat rate; and

(c) if so, the reasons for importing such boilers instead of indigenous supply from BHEL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) BHEL is in a position to supply super-critical boilers for units size upto 800 MW. The heat rate quoted by various manufactures depend on a number of factors specific to the project like unit

size, steam parameters, coal quality, site ambient conditions etc. There is a large variation in the heat rate offered by various suppliers for different projects.

(c) As per the Electricity Act, 2003 generating companies are free to set up thermal power stations and no clearance from CEA/Ministry of Power is required for the thermal stations. Apart from the heat rate and efficiency, number of other considerations influence the purchase decision like prices offered, delivery schedule.

Discussion in the Conference of State Power Ministers

988. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked States to operationalise open access, as laid down in the Electricity Act, 2003 and the National Electricity Policy;

(b) whether a conference of State Power Ministers was held at New Delhi, recently;

(c) if so, the details of discussions held in the conference and outcome thereof;

(d) whether Government has asked States to increase power generation capacity and also to check transmission and distribution losses; and

(e) if so, the incentives Government proposes to give to States to increase power generation capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Conference of Power Ministers of States was held on 23rd June, 2009 at New Delhi.

(c) Issues relating to Capacity Addition, Open Access, Rural Electrification and Re-structured Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme were discussed in detail during the Conference and a Resolution was adopted at the end of the Conference.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No specific incentive was announced for the states to increase Power Generation capacity during the Conference held on 23.06.2009.

World Bank Loan for power plants

989. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has recently sanctioned a loan to India in the shape of assistance, for renovation and modernization of power plants;